

NATIONAL PARK · CANADA · ALBERTA

Banff

at a glance

Turquoise lakes. High mountains. A visit that starts with the right way in.

6,641

KM²

of valleys, peaks, glaciers,
forests and rivers

1883

DISCOVERED

the hot springs at today's Cave
and Basin

1984

SINCE

UNESCO World Heritage,
together with six other parks

10,000

YEARS

and more: how long the springs
have mattered to Indigenous
peoples

BEFORE YOU GO



Moraine Lake needs a transfer

Private vehicles may not drive to Moraine Lake. Registered guests of Moraine Lake Lodge are the exception.



Check closures before you set off

The park authority reports closed trails and campgrounds as they happen.



Regular shuttle

Departs from the Park & Ride, 1 Whitehorn Road. Reservation required.



Shuttle season

Parks Canada shuttles run only in the summer season and depending on the weather.



Wheelchairs and the shuttle

For the regular shuttle, arrange an accessible ride with your reservation. Alpine Start is not wheelchair accessible in 2026.



Trail measurements, not labels

The narrow spot and steep sections on the Fenland Loop matter despite its short length.



Fees and opening hours, up to date

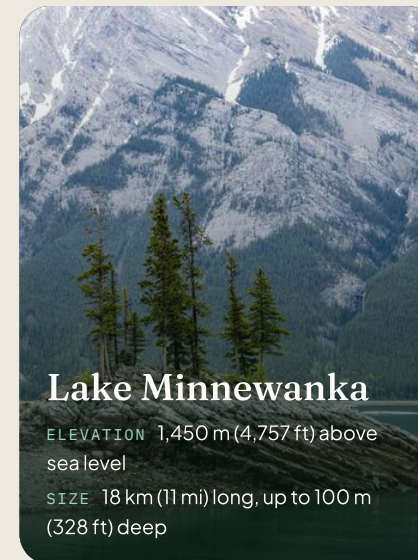
Fees and times change. The park page lists them with source and date: nationalparksatlas.com/en/canada/banff



Lake Connector



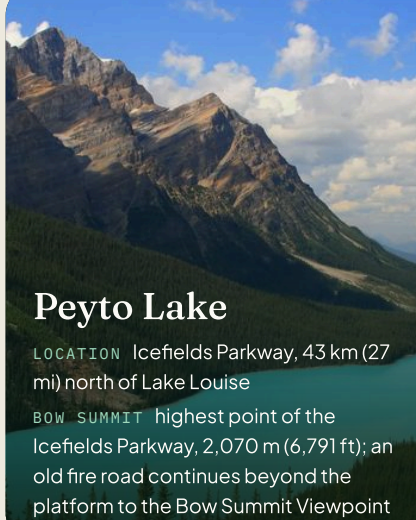
Lake Louise
the lakes



Lake Minnewanka

ELEVATION 1,450 m (4,757 ft) above sea level

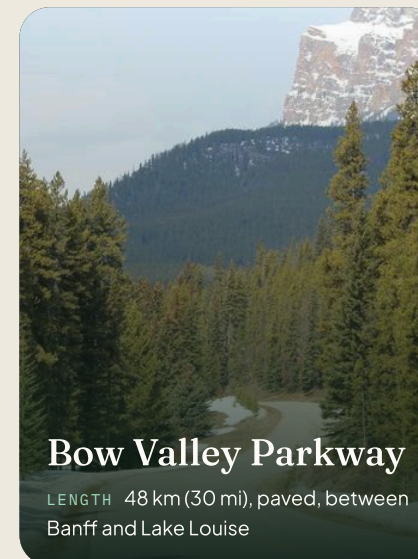
SIZE 18 km (11 mi) long, up to 100 m (328 ft) deep



Peyto Lake

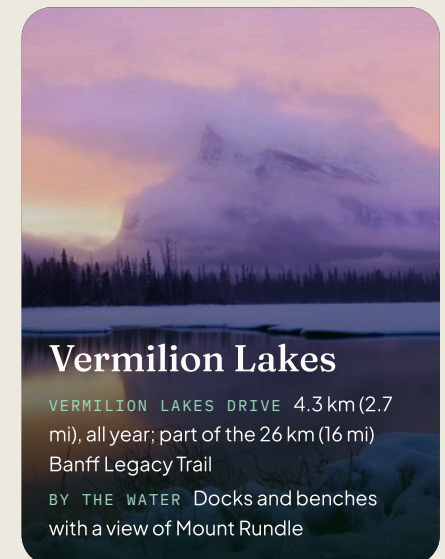
LOCATION Icefields Parkway, 43 km (27 mi) north of Lake Louise

BOW SUMMIT highest point of the Icefields Parkway, 2,070 m (6,791 ft); an old fire road continues beyond the platform to the Bow Summit Viewpoint



Bow Valley Parkway

LENGTH 48 km (30 mi), paved, between Banff and Lake Louise

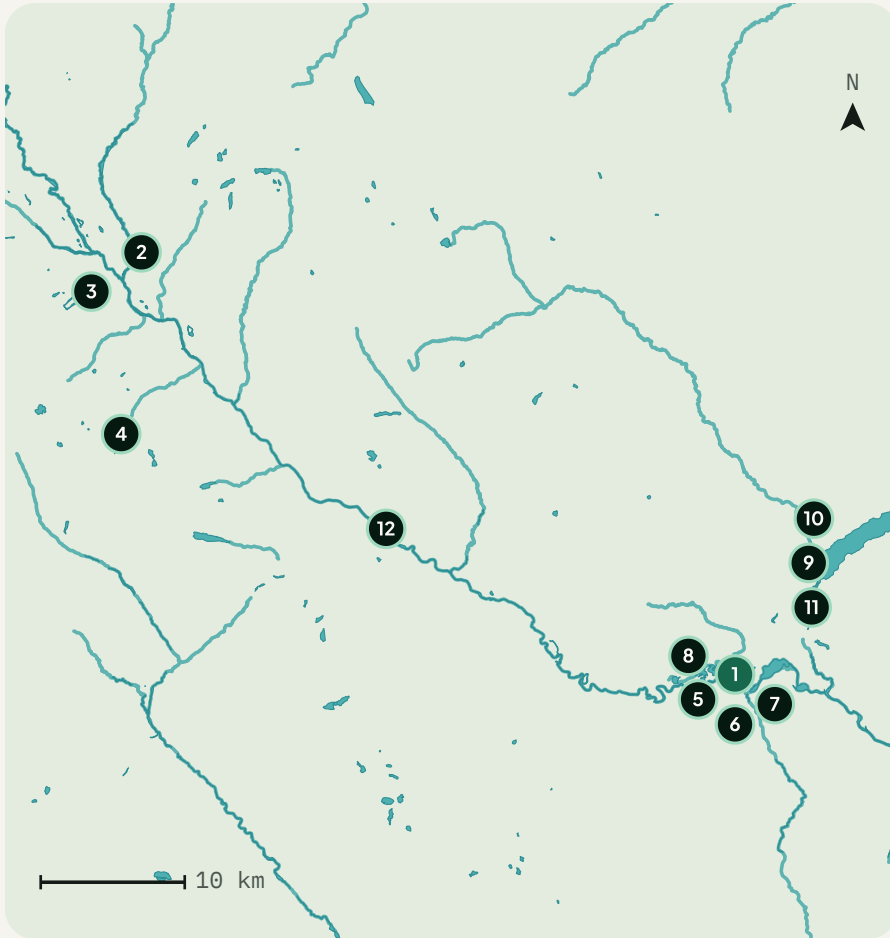


Vermilion Lakes

VERMILION LAKES DRIVE 4.3 km (2.7 mi), all year; part of the 26 km (16 mi) Banff Legacy Trail

BY THE WATER Docks and benches with a view of Mount Rundle

Together with Jasper, Kootenay, Yoho and three provincial parks, Banff forms the Canadian Rocky Mountain Parks World Heritage Site: about 400 km (249 mi) long, up to 100 km (62 mi) wide and over 95 % in a natural state.



- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1 Banff Visitor Centre | 7 Bow Falls |
| 2 Lake Louise Park & Ride | 8 Vermilion Lakes |
| 3 Fairmont Château Lake Louise | 9 Lake Minnewanka |
| 4 Moraine Lake Lodge | 10 Stewart Canyon |
| 5 Cave and Basin National Historic Site | 11 Two Jack Lake |
| 6 Banff Park Museum | 12 Bow Valley Parkway |

Green: entrances. Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors (ODbL).

THINGS TO DO

Lake Agnes

3.9 km (2.4 mi) one way; 495 m (1,624 ft) of ascent and 80 m (262 ft) of descent according to the trail ...

Cycling the Bow Valley Parkway

In spring and autumn, the 17 km (10.6 mi) eastern section between Fireside and Johnston Canyon is at times ...

Stewart Canyon and Aylmer Lookout

From the Lake Minnewanka day-use area, 1.6 km (1 mi) along the shore lead to the bridge over Stewart Canyon ...

2026 season already over

The published dates ran from 13 July to 15 September 2026.

[More on the park page](#)

TOURS AND GETTING THERE • AD



Shuttle from Banff or Canmore to Moraine Lake & Lake Louise

ON GETYOURGUIDE ➤



Lake Louise and Moraine Lake: half-day shuttle

ON GETYOURGUIDE ➤



FROM CALGARY AIRPORT
Calgary Airport to Banff: shared shuttle

ON GETYOURGUIDE ➤



FROM BANFF CANOE CLUB
Big canoe on the Bow River with a guide

ON GETYOURGUIDE ➤



FROM BANFF GONDOLA

Banff Gondola: admission ticket

ON GETYOURGUIDE ➤



FROM MOUNT NORQUAY

Mount Norquay: sightseeing chairlift

ON TIQETS ➤



Sunset and stars: evening walk from Cave and Basin

ON GETYOURGUIDE ➤



Banff: 30-minute helicopter flight over Lake Minnewanka

ON GETYOURGUIDE ➤



Partner links: we may earn a commission if you book. Dates and prices are set by the provider. Checked 17 Sep 2026.